

# GREENBELT News Review

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15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MARCH 21, 2013

## Council Declines State's Offer To Limit "Onerous" Forms Use

by Kathleen Gallagher

At its regular meeting of February 25 council decided to make little modification to the financial reporting requirements it adopted in 2011 to comply with a new state law, despite the complaints of municipal officials about the effects of implementing the "onerous" form and despite an admission by the state ethics board that the city's requirements now exceed what the state requires.

Nearly two years ago, the governor signed into law legislation adopted by the Maryland General Assembly in 2010 to establish more consistent ethics regulations at all levels of government across the state. In the wake of a number of election irregularities, as well as corruption charges at the county level, the legislation required county and municipal elected officials and members of boards of education to adhere to conflict of interest standards and financial disclosure requirements that were "equivalent to or exceed" the state's requirements for its own officials.

### Hue and Cry

No sooner did local elected officials begin to look at the new

requirements than a hue and cry was raised that the extremely detailed financial disclosure reporting required under the new law, which was designed for state officials, was unnecessarily burdensome for smaller jurisdictions and could result in a reluctance to run for office or to volunteer to serve as appointees on those boards required to file. The argument was not with the conflict of interest standards themselves but with the paperwork and very detailed forms. At the council meeting, Mayor Judith Davis said that smaller cities are now reporting the occurrence of these effects and that a new study group has formed to examine the impact of the new law on local government.

As noted in this newspaper's August 11, 2011, coverage of council's worksession on the new ethics code, in Greenbelt the new reporting requirements also have a significant effect on city staff members. Prior to 2011 the city's complete financial disclosure form which, though lengthy, was not as detailed as the new one required by the state, was filed only by councilmembers and candidates, the city manager and

members of the city's Advisory Planning Board and Board of Appeals.

As interpreted by the city, the new, more detailed public disclosure form was, in addition to the above individuals, required of the assistant city manager, the city clerk, all department directors and assistant directors, the chief of police, police captains and the members of the Greenbelt Ethics Commission. In the past, employees at level 15 and above, which include most of those individuals, were required to file only the section of the city's disclosure form dealing with the receipt of gifts.

### Slam Dunk?

The complaints about the state's overreach had been so abundant that the item on the agenda of the February 25 meeting, indicating that Greenbelt's application of the new law went well beyond the requirement of the state and could thus be scaled back, appeared to be a slam dunk.

As reported in a memorandum to council from Clerk Cindy Murray, the state ethics board had made clarifications indicating that there was no need for staff below the level of department head to file the new detailed form nor was it required for the members of the Advisory Planning Board and the Board of Appeals.

City Attorney Robert Manzi did, however, advise that those individuals who were no longer expected to file the new detailed form should now be required to file the city's prior complete disclosure form. None of the city staff members in this group had been required to file previously.

Implementing the plan suggested by the city attorney would

See **COUNCIL**, page 6

### What Goes On

**Saturday, March 23**  
**9 a.m. to noon**, Donation Drop-off, Parking Lot between City Offices and the Community Center  
**Wednesday, March 27**  
**7:30 p.m.**, Advisory Planning Board Meeting, Community Center, Room 114  
**8 p.m.**, City Council Meeting/Budget Presentation, Municipal Building, Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)  
**Thursday, March 28**  
**7:30 p.m.**, Greenbelt Homes, Inc., (GHI) Board Meeting, GHI Administration Building  
**Saturday, March 30**  
**10 a.m.**, Egg Hunt, 18 months to 6th grade, Buddy Attick Park

## Women's History Month

March is Women's National History Month. In observance, the News Review will run articles about Greenbelt women of significant accomplishment whose stories are not well known here.

The series is being coordinated by David Lange.

## Watson, Autism Specialist, Has Broad Reach in Schools

by Marat Moore

Julie Watson fervently believes that all children should be able to fulfill their potential. In her position as an autism instructional specialist for Prince George's County schools, she is helping to make that a reality for students who enter the public education system with the diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Autism spectrum disorders are a group of developmental disabilities that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges. ASDs range in severity, from the milder form of Asperger's syndrome to the more severe Autistic Disorder. ASDs are on the rise, although it's not yet clear whether that is a result of improved diagnosis or an increase in incidence, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. More than 1,200 county students in all grades are on the autism spectrum.

"Children with autism have difficulty understanding social interaction," Watson said. "They often are unsure what to do



PHOTO BY MARAT MOORE

Julie Watson

around others and tend to make a decision that others may not understand or they may just give up and isolate themselves. They can become very anxious in social situations. If not given the right supports, the anxiety can interfere with their ability to be successful in class."

### Trains Teachers

Watson trains teachers and staff in the county's 24 middle schools and 23 high schools

See **WATSON**, page 6

## Greenbelter Studies Mary Shelley and Has Two Jobs

by Jim Link

Melissa Sites's doctoral dissertation topic – on Mary Shelley – explains much about how she thinks and why she lives the way she does. And why she's such stimulating company.

Of the teenage prodigy who penned *Frankenstein*, Sites says, "I love her for her revolutionary vision for domesticity combined with political revolution. I part ways with feminist critics who think she went conservative after writing *Frankenstein*. With parents like William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft – such great radicals – no, no, no!"

Me: "Can you elaborate?"

Sites: "Godwin was Europe's foremost theorist of anarchism. He was no riot-prone bomb thrower but believed in a society of responsible citizens who govern themselves instead of being governed by parliament or legislators. Everybody keeps an eye on each other and helps each other . . ."

Intrigued, I ask about Mary Shelley's mom.



PHOTO BY JIM LINK

Melissa Sites

"Mary Wollstonecraft was an amazing person! The world would have been a different place if she had lived!"

Hooked, I ask her to continue.

"Wollstonecraft was an incendiary pamphleteer; she died at age 38 giving birth to Mary . . . Lots of people think Shelley was a one-book wonder, like Harper Lee (*To Kill a Mockingbird*). Not at all!"

See **SITES**, page 9

## Hoyer Testifies in Support Of County Location for FBI

by James Giese

Greenbelt's Congressional Representative Steny Hoyer and five other area members of Congress each testified on March 13 in support of relocating the proposed new Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) headquarters facility to his or her jurisdiction according to metropolitan area press reports. Appearing before a house subcommittee of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Hoyer emphasized that a September Maryland state study determined that 43 percent of FBI employees live in Maryland. He believed that a facility in Prince George's County would best suit the needs of the FBI and be the most convenient location for the greatest percentage of FBI headquarters employees.

According to the General Services Administration (GSA), there were 35 expressions of interest from throughout the region for the construction of a new FBI headquarters facility. At least two are in Prince George's County. The one which apparently has garnered the strongest local official support is a site offered by the developers of Greenbelt Station at the Greenbelt Metro Station within the city, who have obtained development

rights for property owned by the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority, now used for the Greenbelt Station parking lot. It is the only Metro owned property proposed for the FBI use. GSA has indicated that proximity to public transportation will be an important consideration in site selection. The site has the further advantage of having direct access to the Capital Beltway.

The other county site reportedly proposed is a portion of the property planned to be developed in the large planned community to be known as Westphalia, located at the intersection of the Beltway with Pennsylvania Avenue. That site is not adjacent to a Metro Station. Hoyer did not express preference for a particular site in the county.

"In addition, Maryland has recently seen unprecedented growth in the field of cyber security, which would provide the FBI with greater access to experts in the field, as well as a highly-skilled workforce," Hoyer testified, noting the close proximity of the county to the U.S. Cyber Command at Ft. Meade and other cyber related facilities, including educational facilities.

See **FBI HQ**, page 2

# Letters

## Kudos on Profile

Kudos to Dr. Susan Breon for her knowledgeable profile of the fascinating Dr. Patricia Boyd in last week's paper. I suppose it's not surprising that she can lucidly explain arcana of astrophysics, since she is the head of the Cryogenics and Fluids Branch at NASA.

As a talented musician who participates in many of Goddard's MAD productions herself, Dr. Breon is the perfect profiler to enlighten us about the multifaceted Dr. Boyd. This extraordinary woman was a hidden treasure until now, at least for me.

Jim Link

## Kudos for Joy Gods

The recent production of The Joy Gods Return was fantastic. Once again, Chris Cherry has outdone himself in writing and directing this musical. The talent of the teenagers involved was incredible. I was genuinely touched by their acting, singing and dancing. I want everyone involved with the production to know what an impact it had on me. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Cheryl Peckenpaugh

Send us a line  
newsreview  
@verizon.net

## Correction

After reading "Feb. Nature Discovery Walk" on the front page last week, Joey Murray was in haste to correct the size of the turkey flock he'd seen – the turkeys numbered fewer than 15 not the far larger (and unlikely) flock size that appeared in the article.

# Rejoicing with Paul Downs

by Doug Love

I was thrilled to read Paul Downs' celebration of the Forest Preserve at age 10. His description of his ceremonial celebration was fascinating but not as much as are the woods themselves. And yet, little reason of why he celebrates is conveyed by his words, no matter how grand. I think it is because Paul is at heart an artist and I expect him to report to us as a scientist. Let me now again make the case for the woods being a forest preserve, agreeing in all respects with Paul but giving my own view.

I grew up in Hometown, Ill., a suburb of Chicago. It was one of many suburbs designed after Greenbelt, with its own special details, as all green towns were designed by their developers. The biggest difference between Greenbelt and Hometown was that there is no greenbelt around Hometown. The stretch of weeds along the railroad quickly filled up with city facilities and civic organizations. The elementary schools provided permanent playgrounds. Each house had a tree planted in the front yard and 60 years later those trees that remain have grown to a glorious maturity. But copses of trees and bushes? The nearest forest preserve is several miles to the west.

Here in Greenbelt, we live on the edge of a fairyland. There is a limit to the development and beyond it is almost uncontrolled wildness. Here nothing was planted to grow in a straight line or to border something. The plants chose themselves by where the birds dropped their seeds. We have parkland between the units, with carefully paved paths linking houses, stores and civic buildings. But the woods have trails beaten into the living earth, linking not the natural features we want to see but the places that wild animals want to go. If we see a creature of the forest, we know that it is not invading our space, we are invading theirs and have the responsibility to be

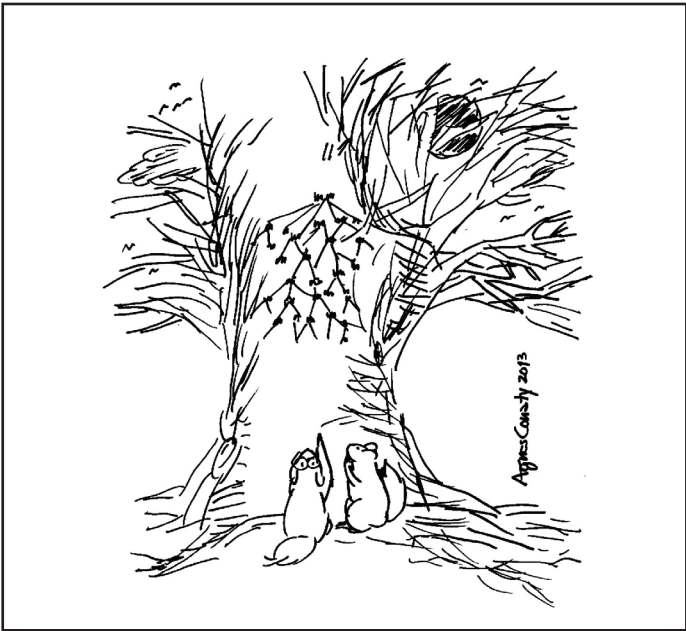
quiet and observe if we are going to be there.

The suburb is alive with the social activities of people working, coming home from work, gardening and playing. The woods are alive with plants and animals doing what they need to do to find nourishment and the love of their own kind. This is a greater set than the sum of humanity and pets; and yet we are welcome to be part of an open preserve like we have around Greenbelt. The fact that it surrounds us should be comforting. A few have met the relatively minor dangers of the woods, from briars to poison ivy to ticks, to rabid animals. These problems can be avoided with a little care and have never caused me to avoid the woods. Even running down a trail during a thunderstorm reveals sudden springs that rise in the trail, converting it to a small stream. Even in dry weather I wonder at the hydrological balance between the hidden ground water and the outcrop of the water table that is a stream or pond.

It is just that the woods contain so many features that are different from our suburban lives to be almost an exact opposite to contrast with our homes and yards that gives Greenbelt character that so many suburbs lack. If our homes become boring, we need only step past our yards to see something totally different, yet commonplace for our climate and terrain. We see what was there before our houses and what remains after we come in droves to populate this fragile land. Some European fiction describes villages that border on a Fairyland, just beyond the mundane spaces of home. Some fear it, others brave it.

And when some would build on it for a brief profit, we step forward into the civilized community to defend and preserve this great alternative to civilization, an alternative that allows us to more fully appreciate the civilized spaces around us.

## Grin Belt



"Hey Dad, which branch of our family tree, did Sequester and Filibuster come from?"

## FBI HQ continued from page 1

According to Daniel J. Sernovitz of the Washington Business Journal, Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton of the District of Columbia was particularly incensed over a December 2011 resolution of the Senate which she felt was an attempt to cut the district out of the site competition. That resolution set as a site criterion that it be located within 2.5 miles of the Beltway. Subcommittee Chair John Mica (R-Fla.) agreed, according to Sernowitz, saying, "I saw the Senate resolution, figure

this one out, they kind of excluded you." While such a criterion was not set by GSA, Dorothy Robyn, commissioner of the GSA's public building service, said that transportation options will be an important criterion in site selection, according to Sernowitz.

Robyn also told the representatives that it likely will be months before the GSA reviews the ideas submitted and decides whether to issue a more targeted search for a private development partner.

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

15 Crescent Road, Suite 100, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770-1887  
301-474-4131 • FAX 301-474-5880  
email: newsreview@verizon.net  
website: www.greenbeltnewsreview.com

Alfred M. Skolnik, President, 1959-1977  
Elaine Skolnik, President, 1977-1985  
President Emeritus, 1985-

Editor: Mary Lou Williamson 301-441-2662  
Assistant Editor: Barbara Likowski 301-474-8483  
News Editor: Elaine Skolnik 301-598-1805  
Assistant to the Editor: Eileen Farnham 301-513-0482  
Photo Editor: Helen Sydavar

## STAFF

Jackie Bealle, Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell, Rebecca Boggs, Judi Bordeaux, Jessi Britton, Arlene Clarke, Lynn Clinedinst, Agnes Conaty, Bill Cornett, Cynthia Cummings, Peter Curtis, Elizabeth Eny, Angie Evans, Joan Falcão, Eli Flam, Kathleen Gallagher, Anne Gardner, Jon Gardner, Bernina McGee Giese, James Giese, Marjorie Gray, Carol Griffith, Pat Hand, Stacy Hardy, Solange Hess, Jeannette Holman, Rebecca Holober, Barbara Hopkins, Larry Hull, Elizabeth Jay, Ginny Jones, Sharon Kenworthy, Suzanne Krofchik, Sandra Lange, Sylvia Lewis, Jim Link, Catherine Madigan, Lou Ann McCann, Kathleen McFarland, Cathie Meetre, Janet Meetre, Mary Moien, Marat Moore, Diane Oberg, Heba Pennington, Shirl Phelps, Marylee Platt, Carol Ready, Altoria Bell Ross, Cheryl Rudd, Ann-Marie Saucier, Susan Stern, Jonathan Taylor, Linda Tokarz, Nancy Tolzman, Joanne Tucker, Jean Turkiewicz, Thomas X. White and Dea Zugby.

CIRCULATION Core of Greenbelt: Ian Tuckman 301-459-5624  
Franklin Park: Arlene Clarke 301-474-1526

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eileen Farnham, president; Thomas X. White, vice president; Judy Bell, treasurer; Marat Moore, secretary; James Giese; Diane Oberg and Altoria Bell Ross

DEADLINES: Letters, Articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$45/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

## OLD GREENBELT THEATRE WEEK OF March 22

### Quartet (PG-13)

#### FRIDAY

\*5:15, 7:30, 9:30

#### SATURDAY

\*3, \*5:15, 7:30, 9:30

#### SUNDAY

\*3, \*5:15, 7:30

#### MONDAY – THURSDAY

\*5:30, 7:30

### COMING SOON AMOUR

\*These shows at \$6.50

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# Community Events

## At the Library

### Storytimes

On Wednesdays and Thursdays, a librarian reads age-appropriate stories to children and parents using imagination and props. Pick up a free ticket from the information desk before the session.

Wednesday, March 27, 10:30 a.m., Drop-in Storytime for ages 3 to 5 years.

Thursday, March 28, 10:30 a.m., Toddler Time for ages 18 to 35 months with caregiver.

### Bookmark Contest

It's last call for entries in the library's First Annual Summer Reading Bookmark Design contest, which closes on March 30. Entry categories are for pre-K through adult, with winning entries printed as official Summer Reading Program bookmarks. Each entry should illustrate a 2013 summer reading theme. For both the pre-K and the kindergarten to grade 5 categories, the theme is Dig Into Reading. Grades 6 to 12 should illustrate "Beneath the Surface" and the adult (age 18+) category is "Ground Breaking Reads." Submit entries to the Greenbelt branch or email to [SRPCommittee@pgcml.info](mailto:SRPCommittee@pgcml.info).

### Women's History

Through March 30, library patrons of all ages can learn about notable women, solve a crossword puzzle and receive a prize. An individual and family friendly activity, puzzles suitable for all ages are available at the information desk.

For more information visit the Greenbelt Library, call 301-345-5800 or visit the library system website at [pgcmls.info](http://pgcmls.info) for a number of library services, to review accounts or renew materials. For automated phone renewal call 301-333-3111.

## Join the Cajun Jam At New Deal Café

On Wednesday, March 27 a free Cajun Jam will be held at the New Deal Café from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for dancers, musicians and listeners who enjoy Cajun music. Beginners are welcome. For more information visit [www.newdealcafe.com](http://www.newdealcafe.com).

## Greenbelt's Egg Hunt Will Be at Lake Park

The Greenbelt annual egg hunt for children age 18 months through sixth grade will be held on Saturday, March 30 in Buddy Attick Park, 333 Crescent Road. Children are invited to bring Easter baskets and help Mr. Bunny find the eggs he and his helpers have hidden. The event begins promptly at 10 a.m.

Following the egg hunt, children can enjoy a performance by local comedy juggler and circus performer Michael Rosman, who will entertain the audience with crazy stunts, animal noses, giant unicycles and more. Rosman has appeared on David Letterman, Jay Leno and the Wendy Williams Show.

Call the weather hotline at 301-474-0646 on the morning of the hunt for updated event status. In case of inclement weather, festivities will be held on Monday, April 1.

## Menu for Senior Nutrition Program

The Senior Nutrition "Food and Friendship" program provides lunches for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at noon. Meals must be reserved by 11 a.m. two days ahead so that enough food is ordered. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215.

All meals include bread and margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk. Menus for March 25 to 29 are:

Monday – Apple juice, baked chicken breast with Mexican sauce, rice pilaf, green cabbage, diced peaches.

Tuesday – Orange juice, split pea soup, turkey salad, tossed salad, fresh fruit.

Wednesday – Grape juice, Salisbury steak with onion gravy, mashed yams, green beans, rosy applesauce.

Thursday – Pineapple juice, oven-fried chicken thigh, green peas, stewed tomatoes, fresh fruit.

Friday – Apple juice, veggie patty with barbecue sauce, whipped potatoes, mixed vegetables, fluffy fruit salad.

## Greenbelt Holds Kids' Underwater Egg Hunt

On Friday, March 29 at 12:30 p.m. the Greenbelt Recreation Department will hold its second annual underwater egg hunt for children age three-and-a-half to 10. Initiated last year, the hunt allows kids to dive for eggs at the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center.

Registration is limited to 60 people; there is a nominal fee. After the egg hunt, participants can continue using the pool for the afternoon. For more information call 301-397-2204.

## GHI Notes

Thursday, March 21, 7 p.m., Finance Committee Meeting – Board Room

Monday, March 25, 7 p.m., Communications Committee Meeting – GHI Lobby

Wednesday, March 27, 7 p.m., Buildings Committee Meeting – Board Room

Thursday, March 28, 7:30 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting – Board Room

Friday, March 29, Office Closed. For Emergency Service call 301-474-6011.

Tuesday, April 2, 8:30 a.m., Yardlines Committee Meeting – GHI Library

Note: Committee and board meetings are open; members are encouraged to attend.

## CERT Training Open Free to All in April

Greenbelt's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) was formed in 2006. On Saturday and Sunday, April 6 and 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., CERT basic training will be available at no charge for anyone interested in learning about disaster response and preparedness to be ready to take care of themselves and assist their families and neighbors in a crisis when professional responders are not immediately available.

CERT provides training in fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, traffic control and disaster medical operations. A free emergency kit is also provided.

All are welcome and there are no medical requirements for participation. Greenbelt CERT welcomes new members, although taking the training is not a commitment to join.

The April training will be held at the Central Communications Facility, 7911 Anchor Street in Landover. To register send an email to [certsignup@gmail.com](mailto:certsignup@gmail.com) or to Calvin Hawkins at [cshawkins@co.pg.md.us](mailto:cshawkins@co.pg.md.us).

Additional information is also available at the Greenbelt and national CERT sites, respectively: [tinyurl.com/greenbeltcert](http://tinyurl.com/greenbeltcert) and [www.fema.gov/community-emergency-response-teams](http://www.fema.gov/community-emergency-response-teams).

## Senior Ice Cream Social, Retro-Rockets

Friday, March 22 at 1 p.m. is the 16th annual Senior Ice Cream Social in the Community Center gym. This year's entertainment will feature The Retro-Rockets providing music from the 40s, 50s, 60s, 70s and beyond.

The Retro-Rockets, an oldies/variety/dance band, is all about making and bringing back memories from poodle skirts, drive-in movies and sock hops to disco and classic rock. They provide live music for dancing, sing alongs and just listening. The audience can socialize, relax and be entertained with memorable tunes.

After the performance participants make their own ice cream sundaes. Ice cream will be available beginning at 2:15 p.m. in the dining room. All seniors are invited to join in this Greenbelt Recreation Department afternoon. For more information call the Greenbelt Community Center at 301-397-2208.

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### WEEK OF MARCH 22

Jack the Giant Slayer, PG-13  
11, 4:10  
Snitch, R  
1:35  
G.I. Joe in 2D, PG-13  
7:30, 10  
The Incredible Burt Wonderstone, PG-13 (!)  
11:30, 2:05, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40  
G.I. Joe, Retaliation in 3D, PG-13 (!)  
11:10, 1:50, 4:25, 7, 9:30  
The Croods in 2D, PG (!)  
11:20, 1:45, 4:10, 6:45, 9:05  
The Croods in 3D, PG (!)  
12, 2:15, 4:35, 7:15, 9:30  
Olympus Has Fallen, R (!)  
11:15, 2, 4:40, 7:25, 10:05  
Oz the Great & Powerful, PG (!)  
11:55, 4, 7, 9:45  
The Call, R (!)  
11:35, 2:10, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50

**The Bus**  
Seniors and Customers with Disabilities  
**RIDE FREE**

**Saturday,**  
**March 23**  
**10:00 am -**  
**1:00 pm**

Join us for the  
**Greenbelt Elementary School Spring Fair**  
**66 Ridge Road**  
**Games ✪ Fun ✪ Food**  
**Prizes ✪ Book Fair**  
**Proceeds benefit the school**

**Greenbelt Arts Center**  
**ONE NIGHT ONLY!!**

**Celtic Concert**  
*with The Homespun Ceilidh Band*

**March 23 at 8:00pm**  
*Ticket prices:*  
**\$17 General Admission \$14 Students/Seniors/Military**

For information & reservations, call **301-441-8770**  
or email: [info@greenbeltartscenter.org](mailto:info@greenbeltartscenter.org) or  
**BOOK TICKETS ONLINE** at [www.greenbeltartscenter.org](http://www.greenbeltartscenter.org)

**Coming Soon to the Greenbelt Arts Center:**  
April 12th – Big River

Greenbelt Arts Center  
123 Centerway • Greenbelt, MD 20770 • Located underneath the Greenbelt CO-OP

More Community Events  
are on page 8.

### NOTICE TO GHI MEMBERS

#### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

### GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013

GHI ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 7:30 PM

#### GHI Key Agenda Items:

- Exception Request for Screened Porch, 8A Ridge
- Exception Request for Serviceside Entrance Door, 4J Plateau Place
- Membership Application Fees for Members Transferring from One Unit to Another
- 2013 Community Beautification Program
- Proposed Revision of GHI Rules for Doors
- Revisions to GHI Employee Handbook
- Contract for Replacement of Roof for 135A Northway, 2nd Reading

Regular Board meetings are open to Members  
For more information, visit our website - [www.ghi.coop](http://www.ghi.coop)



To request a sign language interpreter for this meeting, go to <http://www.ghi.coop/content/interpreter-request-form>, or go to the GHI Office (One Hamilton Place) or contact us by phone (301-474-4161) or fax (301-474-4006).



Condolences to the Greenbelt Crowley family, Ed, Abby, Jesse, Lucas, Macaela, Fran and Lauren, on the death of father, grandfather and great-grandfather Vincent Michael Crowley. A retired FBI agent, Mr. Crowley was 98 and living independently in Adelphi.

**Congratulations to:**  
– Former Windsor Green resident, Allita Irby, whose novel “Fourth Sunday, the Journey of a Book Club” was published by B.W. Read in May 2011. Irby and her friends were in the same reading group in 1994 which morphed into a writers group to pen the story based on their professional lives and friendships in the Washington Metropolitan area from 1995-97. Her husband, Tim Edwards, is a member and past president of the Greenbelt Lions Club. More information is available at [www.bwread.com](http://www.bwread.com).

– Joelle and News Review reporter Jonathon Taylor, who welcomed fourth daughter, Jamie Michaela on February 9, 2013. Jamie, who weighed in at 7 lbs., 3 oz., joins sisters Hannah, Abby and Sarah. As a newcomer to Greenbelt, dad joined the News Review staff after seeing a flyer in a welcome packet recruiting new writers.


– Greenbelt CERT Coordinator, Greenbelter, Captain Kenneth Silberman of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) received its Charles E. “Chuck” Yeager Aerospace Education Achievement Award on March 15.

– Eleanor Roosevelt High School’s boys’ basketball team, winner of the State of Maryland 4A championship. The Raiders, coached by Brendan O’Connell, became the first county team to claim a state crown since Largo won the 3A championship in 2008. The tournament final against the Magruder Colonels took place March 16 at Comcast Center in College Park.

– Greenbelt Middle School students Erin Delaney, Elizabeth Gardner, Tooba Malik, Teresa Ozga and James Rogers-Sites, whose History Day project on the Irish Potato Famine did well at the Prince George’s County competition and will advance to the Maryland State level in April.

Happy 90th birthday to Sally Bersbach. Her friends from the senior aquacize class celebrated last Wednesday morning at the pool with a special cake and watergate salad from the kitchen of longtime Greenbelter Irene Pavlish.

– Kathleen McFarland



**Catholic Community of Greenbelt**

HOLY THURSDAY LITURGY AND POTLUCK  
MARCH 28, 6:30 P.M.  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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SERVE BREAKFAST AT S.O.M.E.  
Sunday, March 31  
Meet at St. Hugh's School  
Parking Lot, 6:00 AM

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SUNDAY MASS, 10:00 AM  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
ALL ARE WELCOME

Free Concert Offered At Berwyn Presbyterian

On Saturday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. the next performance in the Berwyn Concert Series features “Songs of Colonial Spain and The Spanish American Colonies.”

Baritone Jose Sacin and pianist Gabriel Ruiz-Bernal will provide a program of folk songs of colonial times compiled and transcribed by composers including Manuel de Falla, Carlos Guastavino and Rosa Mercedes Ayarza de Morales.

Peruvian native Sacin, according to the DC Theatre Scene, is known for his expressive voice of “liquid gold.” He is one of the top South American baritones and has performed and collaborated with leading figures of the opera and music world, including a nationally televised performance for Pope Benedict XVI with Placido Domingo in Washington, D.C. He has also performed with Gregory Buchalter of the Metropolitan Opera, Chilean soprano Veronica Villaroel, American soprano Alessandra Marc, Enrique Ricci and Will Crutchfield.

The concert will be held at Berwyn Presbyterian Church, 6301 Greenbelt Road. The concert is free but donations are welcome. More information is available at <http://berwynmusic.weebly.com/berwyn-concerts.html>.

Arboretum Has Free Spring Exhibition

On March 23 and 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the U.S. National Arboretum will offer a Spring Kusamono Exhibit: Reflections of Fern Valley. Kusamono is the traditional Japanese art of potted arrangements of wild herbaceous plants in unique containers. Each composition suggests a season and a habitat, such as a wetland, meadow or woodland.

This exhibit coincides with the 27th Annual Lahr Native Plant Symposium and features kusamono of native plants from the mid-Atlantic region, many of which can be found in the Arboretum’s Fern Valley Native Plant Collection.

The U.S. National Arboretum is located at 3501 New York Avenue, N.E.

Leave It to Beavers

Leave It to Beavers, a program for children ages 5 to 7, will be offered on Friday, March 29 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Patuxent Research Refuge. In this free hands-on program, children will discover the techniques these resourceful animals use to live in the wild.


Advance registration is required; call 301-497-5887. Donations are also appreciated. The Visitor Center is off Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

**Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church**  
3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)




*Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community*

**Sunday at 10 a.m.**  
**Rev. Diane Teichert**  
See our website: [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)



**ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-474-4322



**Mass Schedule:**  
**Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.**  
**Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.**  
**Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.**  
**Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:30-4:30 p.m.**

**Pastor: Rev. Walter J. Tappe**

**Greenbelt Community Church**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Hillside & Crescent Roads  
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings  
[www.greenbeltucc.org](http://www.greenbeltucc.org)  
Sunday Worship  
10:15 a.m.  
Clara Young, Interim Pastor

*"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."*

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111  
[www.myholycross.org](http://www.myholycross.org) • [myholycross@verizon.net](mailto:myholycross@verizon.net)



**Holy Week and Easter**  
**March 24 – Palm Sunday**  
9:30 a.m. Service  
10:30 a.m. Brunch  
6:00 p.m. Service  
**March 28 – Holy Thursday**  
11:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.  
**March 29 – Good Friday**  
11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
**March 31 – Easter Sunday**  
9:30 a.m. Festive Service of Holy Communion  
11:15 a.m. Service, 6:00 p.m. Service

Nat'l Gallery Offers Two Free Concerts


The National Gallery of Art will hold a free concert at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 24. Pianist Yoshikazu Nagai will perform a National Cherry Blossom Festival program in the West Garden Court.

At 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 27, pianist Edvinas Minkstimas will perform Beethoven’s Concerto No. 2 with National Gallery of Art and Phillips Camerata resident musicians.

The concert will be held in the East Building Auditorium.

**Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt**  
Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors  
[www.greenbeltumc.org](http://www.greenbeltumc.org) 301-474-9410  
**Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor**  
**Worship Service 10 a.m.**





Ye were created to show love one to another and not perversity and rancor. Take pride not in love for yourselves but in love for your fellow-creatures. Glory not in love for your country, but in love for all mankind. (Baha’u’llah)

---

**Greenbelt Bahá’í Community**  
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918  
[Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com](mailto:Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com) [www.bahai.us](http://www.bahai.us)

**St. George’s Episcopal Church**  
*Join us around a table where all are welcome!*




Services  
• Sundays  
8 a.m. simple, quiet service (no music)  
10 a.m. main service  
(music includes a mixture of acoustic guitar, piano and organ music)


• Wednesdays  
7 p.m. service with healing prayers (no music)

7010 Glenn Dale Road (Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)  
301-262-3285 | [rector@stgeo.org](mailto:rector@stgeo.org) | [www.stgeo.org](http://www.stgeo.org)

**BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



**Rev. Mary Pullen - Pastor**  
**301-474-7573**  
**6301 Greenbelt Road**  
**Berwyn Heights, MD 20740**



Worship : Sun 11:00 am - 12:00 pm (Child Care Available)  
Sunday School : Sun 9:30 am - 10:30 am  
Office Hours : Mon, Thu, Fri 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Tue, Wed 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
*"A hospitable, multicultural community of faith"*



**Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH**  
101 Greenhill Road Greenbelt, MD 20770  
(301)474-4212 [www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)

*Celebrate the Risen Savior!*

**PALM SUNDAY, March 24<sup>th</sup>:**  
Sunday School and Worship Service, 9:45 and 11:00am  
Easter Cantata: Champion of Love, 4:00pm  
**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, March 29<sup>th</sup>:**  
with Infinity Baptist, 7:30pm  
**EASTER SUNDAY, March 31<sup>st</sup>:**  
Sunday School, 9:30am  
Worship Service, 10:30am  
*All Welcome!*



**Congregation Mishkan Torah**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 301-474-4223

*An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.*

Shabbat services: Friday evening at 8:00 PM, except 1st Friday of the month, i.e. family service at 7:30 PM. Saturday morning services at 9:30 AM. Educational programs for children K–12 and for adults. Combined innovative full family educational program for parents and children. Conversion classes. Concert choir. Social Action program. Opportunity for leadership development. Moderate, flexible dues. High holiday seating for visitors. Sisterhood. Men's Club. Other Social Activities. Interfaith families are welcome.

*Historic synagogue dually affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation*



# City Information

**GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 27, 2013 - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Presentations
- Anacostia Trails Heritage Area
  - Proposed FY 2014 City Budget

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)  
Minutes of Council Meetings  
Administrative Reports  
Council Reports  
Committee Reports

- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, Report #2013-1 (Police Signage)

**LEGISLATION**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

- Letter of Support – Anacostia Trails Heritage Area
- Replacement Police Vehicles
- Federal Legislation
- HR 112 Tax-Exempt Status of Municipal Bonds
- Proposal for Organizational Assessment
- Other Reports
- \*- Reappointments to Advisory Groups
- \* - Resignation from Advisory Group

**MEETINGS**

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public, and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10am on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail cmurray@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

**MEETINGS FOR THE WEEK OF**  
**MARCH 25-30**

Wednesday, March 27 at 7:30 pm, **ADVISORY PLANNING BOARD**, 15 Crescent Road, RM 114. On the Agenda: Magnolia Springs Nursing Home at Doctors Hospital – Detailed Site Plan and Final draft review of the City of Greenbelt Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan

Wednesday, March 27 at 8:00 pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING/BUDGET PRESENTATION** at Municipal Building, 25 Crescent Road. Live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and streaming at [www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)

*This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000.*

**Later Service on the G12 & G16 in Greenbelt,**  
**Effective March 24th**

G12, G16 Greenbelt-New Carrollton  
Later service during weekday evenings will be provided in Historic Greenbelt. A new G12 trip will leave Greenbelt station at 10:55 p.m., arriving at Roosevelt Center via the North End at 11:12 p.m. The same bus will become a G16, leave Roosevelt Center at 11:13 p.m. and return to Greenbelt station, arriving there at 11:25 p.m. to connect with the last Monday through Thursday Green Line train. Customers who live in the South End may remain on this bus beyond Roosevelt Center as far as the last stop on Lakecrest Drive. A second new weekday G12 trip will leave Greenbelt station at 11:35 p.m. and will operate via the North End, Roosevelt Center, and through the South End to the last stop on Lakecrest Drive before Greenbelt Road, where it will terminate.



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[www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt](http://www.facebook.com/cityofgreenbelt)



**EARTH HOUR 2013**  
**UNITING PEOPLE TO**  
**PROTECT THE PLANET**  
**SATURDAY, MARCH 23**  
**AT**  
**8:30PM**

**Turn your lights off for one hour.**  
**Join the I will if you will challenge at**  
<http://earthhour.org/>



**SPRING CAMP**

Warmer days are on their way, and Spring Break is right around the corner! We'll keep your kid's break action packed with a combination of events both at the Youth Center and off premises. All campers must be in kindergarten through sixth grade and are responsible for providing their own non-perishable lunch and drink. Mon: Magic Show. Tue: Pump It Up. Wed: Maryland Science Center. Thu: Skate Zone. Fri: Cookout & Swimming

**LOCATION: The Youth Center**      **FEES: R: \$175, NR: \$210**  
**DATES: Monday, April 1 - Friday, April 5**  
**TIME: 9:00am - 3:30pm (BEFORE & AFTERCARE AVAILABLE)**

**SPRING CIRCUS CAMP**

Ages 8-13  
Join former Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus performer Greg May for a fun-filled spring break and learn how to juggle, walk on stilts, balance on a rolling globe or balance board and more! Campers are safely taught at their individual skill level. They will demonstrate their new skills in performance on Friday afternoon at 2:30. Campers must bring a non-perishable lunch each day.

**DATES: Monday, April 1 - Friday, April 5**  
**TIME: 9:00am - 3:30pm (BEFORE & AFTERCARE AVAILABLE)**  
**Greenbelt Community Center**  
**FEES: R: \$179, NR: \$215**

**FAST-BREAK BASKETBALL CLINIC**

Ages 8-14  
Spend your spring break improving your basketball skills through this new clinic. Registration fee will include a Springhill Lake Recreation Center membership card that will allow each participant to remain in the facility beyond the hours of the basketball clinic.

**DATES: Monday, April 1 - Friday, April 5**  
**TIME: 9:00am-12:00pm**  
**LOCATION: Springhill Lake Recreation Center**  
**FEES: R: \$30, NR: \$55**

**MORE INFORMATION:** Call the Greenbelt Recreation Business Office at 301.397.2200 or Visit us at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/Recreation](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/Recreation)

**UNDERWATER EGG HUNT**

Ages 3½-10  
**Friday, March 29, 12:30pm**  
**Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center,**  
**101 Centerway**

Residents \$1.00, Non-Residents \$2.00  
A fun new twist on the traditional egg hunt. Come out and dive for eggs. Last year this proved to be a very popular event. After the egg hunt your child can enjoy the pool for the rest of the afternoon!  
Registration is limited to 60 people.  
For more information call 301-397-2204.

**ANNUAL EGG HUNT**

Ages 18mo-6th grade  
**Saturday, March 30**  
**Begins PROMPTLY at 10:00am**  
**Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road**

Bring your Easter Baskets and help Mr. Bunny find the eggs he and his helpers have hidden. Immediately following the egg hunt, we invite you to stay for local comedy juggler and circus performer, Michael Rosman. Rosman will dazzle the audience with his crazy stunts, hilarious antics, animal noses, giant unicycles and more. Rosman has appeared on David Letterman, Jay Leno and the Wendy Williams Show. Please call the weather hotline, 301-474-0646, the morning of the hunt for updated event status. In case of inclement weather, festivities will be held on Monday, April 1, at Buddy Attick Park.



**Visual artists: Apply now through May 6 for studio space at the Greenbelt Community Center.**

24-hr access through the Recreation Department's juried Artist in Residence Program. New residences begin July 1. Application available at [www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/arts), or write to [ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov](mailto:ndewald@greenbeltmd.gov). Open to both residents and non-residents of Greenbelt.

**VACANCIES ON**  
**BOARDS &**  
**COMMITTEES**

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on: Advisory Planning Board, Arts Advisory Board and Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability  
**For information call 301-474-8000.**

**DONATION DROP-OFF**

American Rescue Workers  
Saturday, March 23, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.  
Parking lot between City Office and the Community Center  
Info: City of Greenbelt Recycling Office at 301-474-8308.

**GREENBELT**  
**ANIMAL SHELTER**  
**550-A Crescent Road**  
(behind Police Station)



**Mr. Muddles** is the 3rd pup to come in from an unknown breeder here in Greenbelt. He is scared but warming up to being loved. Give us a call 301-474-6124 Come out and visit all of the available pets!  
The shelter is open on Wednesdays from 4-7pm and on Saturdays from 9am-12pm or by appointment.  
See all our pets on Facebook!

**What's new at**  
**Greenbelt CityLink?**  
[www.greenbeltmd.gov](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov)  
**Stay informed!**

## COUNCIL

continued from page 1

have substantially upgraded the filing requirements for all elected officials and employees compared to the pre-2011 standard, while relieving mid-level management employees of the burden of filing the state’s very detailed form. It would have meant that councilmembers, candidates and the city manager would still fill out the new detailed form. Department heads, who had never previously had to file a disclosure form, would file the new detailed form, as would the new city ethics commission. The two boards would continue to file the city’s original disclosure form. Employees at the assistant director and comparable levels, including the assistant city manager and the city clerk, who had not previously been required to disclose, would also file the city’s original form.

When asked by the mayor if he wished to comment, City Manager Michael McLaughlin replied that council had all the information before it. He said the issue was that the state ethics commission had originally given bad guidance and now recognized that it had gone too far and said the new city process could be scaled back. He pointed out that council had talked about how onerous the forms are, even for people choosing to run for office.

### Not So Fast

To the surprise of many, however, a majority of council was strongly opposed to the plan to let assistant director level staff begin to use the complete form that had been used by the city for years in lieu of the more detailed form. A motion to support the change garnered the support of only Davis and Councilmembers Leta Mach and Edward Putens. The other councilmembers, including Emmett Jordan, Konrad Herling, Rodney Roberts and Silke Pope, all believed the stringent requirement should be maintained for at least most of the other employees.

The thinking was that assistant director level staff in some instances are independently responsible for choosing vendors and contractors even though such decisions must ultimately be approved by the department director and the city manager. Even in the case of amounts requiring a bid and approval by the city council, it was thought that the recommendations of assistant directors could easily influence the decision “up the line” through sign-off by city council without sufficient further evaluation. It was thought that financial disclosure should be the same for assistant director level staff, department heads, the city manager and the city council.

Not wishing the state’s admission of error to be completely for naught, Davis moved with a second from Mach, that the city clerk and the members of the Advisory Planning Board and the Board of Appeals be permitted to use the city’s prior financial disclosure form. That motion passed 6 to 1 with Roberts opposing. Required to file the “onerous” form will continue to be the city council, candidates for office, the city manager, department directors and assistant directors, police command staff at the rank of captain and above and members of the Greenbelt Ethics Commission.

## WATSON continued from page 1

about the needs of students with ASD. She also develops and supports new programs and works with families to ensure that children receive the customized supports they need to build social communication and functional skills. She was drawn to autism nearly a decade ago as a provisional preschool teacher in special education.

Arriving mid-year, “I had children with speech delays, Downs Syndrome and developmental delays. Of all the students, only Jason did not respond – the only child in the class with autism.”

She remembers her frustration and desire to connect with him.

“He wanted to sit under a desk and ‘stem’ with a fork – flap it up and down in front of his eye. He was three years old and autism services didn’t begin then until a child was four,” she said. Watson sought help from an autism specialist and then asked for training in the treatment of autism.

After her training, he responded. “All of a sudden he did everything I asked, maybe just to shut me up,” she said, laughing.

Later she saw progress with another student. “I kept up with him later and he was able to stay in a small class with the regular curriculum,” she said. “I was hooked – I loved the kids, loved the work and knew that early intervention works.”

### Older Students

Watson sees her students with ASD as “funny, loving and often misunderstood.”

Now that she’s working with the county’s middle schools and high schools, Watson sees the same qualities in the older students on the autism spectrum.

“They’re loyal and kind, and honest,” she said. “Often they will tell you things other kids are too embarrassed to say, like how they tried to ask someone for a date.

“These students are going out into the world and we want to help them make decisions that don’t backfire,” she said. “We have four specialized programs that give them skills and support that they can generalize in the world.

“Puberty is a very difficult time for these students. All children are confused, going through so many changes but they are more confused,” Watson said. “And with teenagers’ emphasis on relationships, students with autism experience higher levels of stress and anxiety.

“Anxiety is an overall problem in the intense social environment at school,” she said. “Sometimes we can find an easy way to lower anxiety, like switching classes a minute before the bell rings or allowing them to eat lunch somewhere besides the cafeteria,” she said. “We give them a limited ‘break pass,’ to let them know they don’t have to stay and melt down. Often they don’t realize that frustration is building inside. And in some cases, just having a go-to person when they have problems can make a real difference.”

### RDI Program

Watson also has worked with home-based intervention as part of a new state-funded program, Relationship Development Intervention (RDI).

“It is groundbreaking,” she said. “Prince George’s County is the first in the country to offer

this intervention free to families,” she said. The state has provided funds for parent groups and individual sessions. (Currently the program is full.)

“Children with autism can be quite challenging at home,” she said. “We work with parents on their interactions with their children and this helps students improve in the home setting as well.”

With the program in its second year, Watson is one of five people in the school system who are certified to provide RDI. The families apply to the program and Watson meets with two parent groups twice a month each and individual families once a month with additional online contact.

### Roots in County

Watson’s commitment to students is matched by pride in the county’s special education programs.

“The school system supports students with autism in many settings,” she said. “Students often remain in their neighborhood schools. If they need more support, there are schools with specific programs for autism in which the students are included with other students but staff is available for support throughout the day, along with instruction in social skills, disability awareness, self-advocacy and organization.”

Watson’s dedication reflects her “deep roots” in the county. She grew up in Laurel and attended public schools through high school.

At Laurel High School she learned important lessons outside the classroom, especially from the civil rights movement that brought black students to the mostly white school.

“I remember the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. and the TV images of riots,” she said. As a Catholic, Julie had classmates whose parents moved them into parochial schools when busing began.

“But we stayed,” she said. “My mom stayed calm. She told

us, ‘These kids just want to go to school too.’

“At Laurel High School we supposedly were always having riots, but I never saw anything,” she said. “I realized that normal altercations were being blown out of proportion and being publicized as race riots.”

### Equal Rights

The civil rights movement and the women’s movement encouraged other social movements, and people with disabilities began to push for equal opportunities and equal rights. Watson was affected by all three – civil rights in her teens, the women’s movement in early adulthood and the disability rights movement which opened the door to her profession.

About the women’s movement, she says: “The fact that I was able to pursue any career I wanted was very important. The push for women’s rights, like civil rights, was about people standing up and making no apologies for who they are and demanding equal treatment and respect.”

After high school, she earned her bachelor’s degree in psychology from Frostburg State and went on to graduate school at the University of Maryland to study school psychology.

“We moved to GHI when I was in graduate school and intended to live in Greenbelt for just a few years, but I loved it so much we never left,” she said.

After working in school psychology, she and her husband started a family and she was able to spend a few years at home caring for her young children. Her re-entry job was teaching preschool part-time for the Greenbelt Co-op Nursery School, which lasted five years. “I loved that job,” she said.

When her youngest son was in second grade, she moved to a full-time job teaching preschool special education for several years, where she got “hooked” on teaching kids with autism. Then she became an itinerant teacher, traveling the county to help teach-

ers working with children with autism. That led to her current position, in which she oversees the autism supports serving students in their middle school and high school years.

Her first group of middle-school students will graduate this year from county high schools.

“We need to keep up with them,” she says. “We care what happens in their lives, and we’ve gotten to know the families so well.”

Recently she talked to several of those graduating seniors about their autism. “They told me that if they had a choice, they wouldn’t take away their autism. They like who they are,” she said. “It’s been so amazing to watch their progress from seventh grade.”

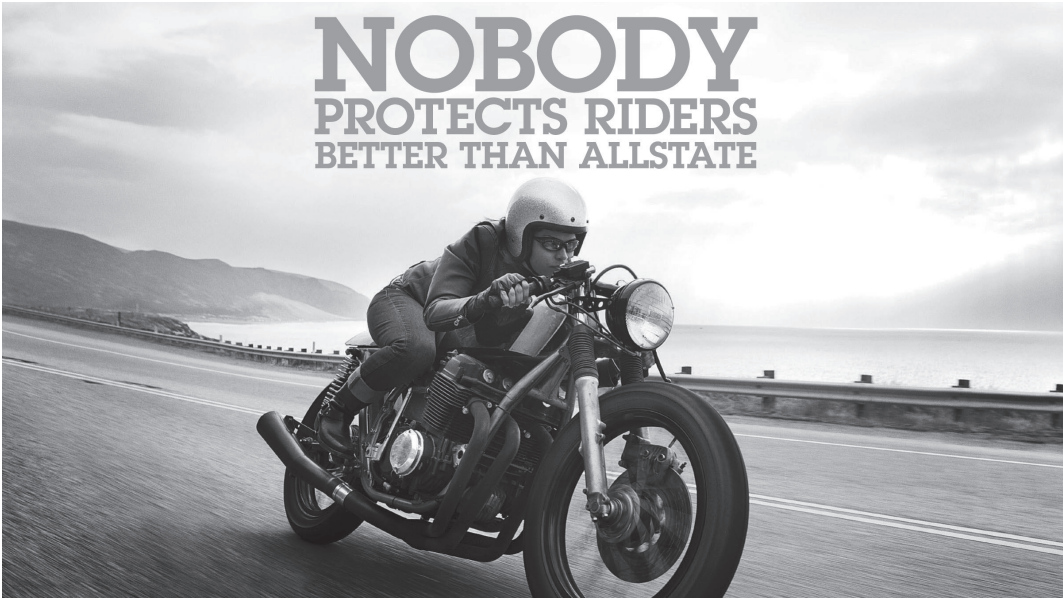
### Looking Ahead

When Watson looks at the future of autism treatment, she sees a spectrum of treatment as diverse and customized as the disorder itself.

“The model for future treatment is very eclectic, I think,” she said. “Our county shines because we usually rely on a range of treatments.” Those treatments include ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis); Floor Time; TEACCH (Training and Education of Autistic and Related Communication Handicapped Children), which uses visual schedules; the work of Stanley Greenspan, which focuses on social development; and the state-funded RDI program of training in home-based intervention.

When asked about her hopes and dreams related to this work, she smiles broadly:

“For students to reach their potential and understand their disability in a positive way so they are comfortable with themselves and can make the adjustments they need when they’re anxious or uncomfortable. And I want teachers and others to understand how autism works and how they can offer appropriate supports to these students in their neighborhood schools.”



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**Allstate**  
**MOTORCYCLE**

# Council Takes Positions on State and County Bills

by Kathleen Gallagher

At its March 11 regular meeting with all members present, the Greenbelt City Council began its annual determination of which bills pending in the General Assembly to support. Council also reviewed two competing county bills and a federal bill.

In other business, council heard a request to charge daily use fees to non-residents at Buddy Attick Park and established the membership of the Greenbelt Green Team. Also council advised Mayor Judith Davis on an upcoming vote on gun violence that she expect to cast as a member of the board of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

### State Bills

Council voted unanimously to support two bills. If passed in the General Assembly, one would create a three-year pilot program to allow for community renewable energy generating facilities to be developed and implemented by the Public Service Commission. The other would support businesses on the Maryland coast by mandating that public schools open no earlier than the day after Labor Day.

### County Bills

Two competing bills in the county council have been introduced by County Councilmembers Eric Olson (CB-6-2013) and Mel Franklin (CB-12-2013), to expedite development review for projects near Metro stations

in Prince George’s County. It is highly likely that one of the bills will be adopted.

Either one could affect plans for development at the Greenbelt Metro station. Olson’s bill is somewhat less radical in its impact. It would apply to projects within only a quarter-mile radius of a Metro station.

Franklin’s bill, on the other hand, would encompass a half-mile from the “outermost point” of a constructed station, which might include not only parts of Franklin Park but also Beltway Plaza. Franklin’s bill also cuts municipalities out of much of the review process, and also allows a number of decisions to be made solely by the chair of the planning board rather than, as is now the case, the full board.

Councilmembers voiced their displeasure with both bills, the process and the inadequate time allowed for comment on this matter. Given an imminent worksession on the bills by the Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Committee of the county council; however, the city council voted unanimously to oppose CB-12 and to indicate that more time would be necessary for the city to take a position on CB-6.

### Workforce Act

Councilmember Leta Mach had alerted council to a threat to the federal Workforce Investment Act, which supports training and workforce programs that occur at the local level. Council then voted unanimously to notify U.S. Representative Steny Hoyer of

its opposition to H.R. 803, the Supporting Knowledge and Investing in Lifelong Skills Act, and to ask him to oppose it.

This legislation would transfer to governors much of the authority that local elected officials and business leaders currently have for developing and implementing workforce programs responsive to local needs.

### Daily Use Fees

During the portion of the meeting devoted to petitions and requests, resident Bob Snyder asked the city to consider charging a daily use fee to non-residents who use Buddy Attick Park. He gave his impression that the number of non-residents using the park has increased significantly over the last decade, with the result that amenities such as picnic tables are not always available for residents’ use. Since park upkeep and facilities are funded by city taxpayers, he encouraged imposing a fee on non-resident users, which he said is a practice of some other jurisdictions.

Following questions about the feasibility of implementing such a fee, council agreed to discuss it during the budget review process, subsequent to review by both the staff of the Recreation Department and the Park and Recreation Advisory Board.

### Green Team

Last August council endorsed creating a 15-member Greenbelt Green Team comprising residents and representatives of businesses as one of the requirements for the city to become a Sustainable

Maryland Certified Community. Sustainable Maryland certification is awarded to municipalities that not only want to “go green,” control costs and save money but also to take specific steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term.

Since only three people had responded to a call for applicants to serve on the team, council accepted a staff recommendation that the city’s existing Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability (GreenACES) be authorized to act as the city’s Green Team with the addition of the three additional individuals who applied to participate. The city has already met most of the criteria for certification, and GreenACES has been undertaking tasks that would otherwise have been carried out by the Green Team.

### Gun Violence Vote

Davis, who serves on the COG board, sought the direction of council on how to vote on one of two alternatives to come before the board at an upcoming meeting for the purpose of COG’s taking a position on gun violence. The choice was between endorsing the position paper of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) on firearms violence or referring the question to various COG committees in order to develop a position.

Councilmembers advised the mayor to vote for COG to endorse the position paper of the IACP, which can be found at [www.theiacp.org/firearms](http://www.theiacp.org/firearms).

## Women’s Heart Group To Meet at Doctors

The Women’s Heart Support Group will meet at Doctors Community Hospital on Tuesday, March 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. This group is dedicated to helping women who have or support someone who has heart disease. Women who may be at risk of heart disease are also welcome. A guest speaker will present “Stress Management Using Seated Yoga.”

The hospital is located at 8100 Good Luck Road in Lanham. The support group will meet in the North Building, 5th floor, DSE Room A.

For more information call Cecily Ludka at 301-552-8058.

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\$1 <sup>88</sup> lb.		\$1 <sup>49</sup> lb.		\$2 <sup>00</sup>		\$1 <sup>00</sup>		\$5 <sup>99</sup> lb.							
Fresh Value Pack Boneless/Skinless Chicken Breasts		California Driscoll Strawberries 16 oz.		Land-O-Lakes Butter Quarters 1 lb.		Turkey Hill Ice Cream Assorted 1.5 qt.		Sea Best Frozen Flounder or Cod Fillets 1 lb.							
\$1 <sup>99</sup> lb.		\$2 <sup>50</sup>		\$2 <sup>50</sup>		\$2 <sup>50</sup>		\$4 <sup>99</sup>							
Fresh Value Pack Boneless N.Y. Strip Steaks		Fresh Nutritious Broccoli Crowns		Fresh White Grade A Large Eggs 18 pk.		Lean Cuisine Select Entrees 5-11.5 oz.		East Coast Standard or Select Oysters 8 oz.							
\$6 <sup>99</sup> lb.		\$1 <sup>49</sup> lb.		\$2 <sup>39</sup>		\$2 <sup>50</sup>		\$6 <sup>99</sup>							
Grocery Bargains				Customer Appreciation Discount Day Wednesday, March 27 5% Discount to ALL customers on ALL purchases (except stamps and gift cards)		Grocery Bargains									
Green Giant Asst. Vegetables Corn/Peas/Gr. Beans 14-15.25 oz.						Maxwell House Ground Coffee Select Varieties 10-11.5 oz.									
\$80¢						\$2 <sup>50</sup>									
Betty Crocker Mashed or Specialty Potatoes Assorted 3-6.6 oz.						\$1 <sup>00</sup>									
\$1 <sup>00</sup>						\$1 <sup>00</sup>									
Gold Medal Flour Reg./Unbleached 5 lb.						\$1 <sup>25</sup>									
\$1 <sup>99</sup>						\$2 <sup>99</sup>									
Dole Assorted Pineapple 20 oz.						\$1 <sup>00</sup>									
\$1 <sup>00</sup>						\$2 <sup>99</sup>									
Deli		Bakery		 CO-OP Will Be OPEN Easter Sunday 10am til 4pm		Health & Beauty		Beer & Wine							
Kunzler Cooked Ham		Fresh Store Baked Challah Bread loaf				Western Family Aspirin Tablets 250 pack		Ice House Beer 6 pk.–12 oz. cans							
\$5 <sup>29</sup> lb.		\$3 <sup>49</sup>				BUY ONE GET ONE FREE		\$4 <sup>29</sup>							
New Yorker Hot Pepper Cheese		Fresh Store Baked Assorted Dinner Rolls 12 pack				\$4 <sup>99</sup>		\$8 <sup>99</sup>							
\$7 <sup>99</sup> lb.		\$2 <sup>49</sup>				Listerine Antiseptic Mouthwash 33.8 oz.		Rio Seco Wines 1.5 Liter							
\$2 <sup>49</sup>		\$2 <sup>49</sup>				\$4 <sup>99</sup>		\$8 <sup>99</sup>							

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# Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, <http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/index.htm>, link in left frame to "Weekly Report" or [http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly\\_report.pdf](http://www.greenbeltmd.gov/police/weekly_report.pdf).  
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

**Arrests**  
March 9, 2:55 p.m., 22 Ridge Road. A 21-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest after being stopped in a suspicious vehicle. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

March 13, 10:19 a.m., 7400 block Greenbelt Road. A 27-year-old nonresident man was arrested and charged with animal cruelty and disorderly conduct after several people reported he was punching and kicking a dog in the parking lot. He was transferred to the Department of Corrections for hearing before a district court commissioner.

**Burglary**  
March 11, 12:03 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace. An attempted burglary occurred.

March 12, 3:47 p.m., 6500 block Lake Park Drive. Electronics, jewelry and currency were taken.

**Vehicle Crime**  
Four reports of thefts from vehicles were received: 6800 block Springshire Way (iPod, change and textbooks), 7800 block Walker Drive (GPS unit), 7600 block Greenbelt Road (laptop, purse and wallet), 6600 block Lake Park Drive (car radio).

Five incidents of vandalism were reported: 7800 block Walker Drive (windows were broken on two vehicles), Breezewood Court at Edmonston Terrace (vehicle was scratched), 7800 block Mandan Road (windows were broken on a vehicle), 8000 block Lakecrest Drive (two vehicles were scratched and had tires punctured), 9100 block Edmonston Road (windows were broken on two vehicles).

*The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.*

*Call 1-866-411-TIPS.*

*People may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 240-542-2145.*

## Upcoming Events at New Deal Café

Thursday, March 21 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., followed in the evening with a Joe Harris open microphone session from 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday, March 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. pianist John Guernsey plays classical and jazz piano, then Triage brings neo-jazz/alternative/low rock from 8 to 11 p.m.

On Saturday, March 23 Bruce Kritt plays classical guitar from 4 to 6 p.m., followed by Guernsey's up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The Badger Band headlines the evening with Grateful Dead, Dylan and originals from 8 to 11 p.m.

Sunday, March 24 is the weekly sign language brunch discussion from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Tower Green performs Renaissance-inspired Tudor rock from 5 to 8 p.m.

**Next Week**  
Tuesday, March 26 Jesse Palidofsky will play soulful originals and covers on keyboard, guitar and harmonica from 7 to 9 p.m. On Wednesday, March 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. bring instruments and join the Cajun Music Jam. On Thursday, March 28 pianist Amy C. Kraft plays midday melodies from noon to 2 p.m., with a Songwriter's Association of Washington open microphone session in the evening from 7 to 9 p.m. On Friday, March 29 pianist John Guernsey plays clas-

sical and jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 p.m., then Hard Swimmin' Fish headlines with juicy, rockin' blues from 8 to 11 p.m. On Saturday, March 30 the Greg Meyers Community Jazz Jam session will be from 1 to 5 p.m. Afterward John Guernsey plays up-tempo jazz piano from 6:30 to 8 followed by The Underscore Orkestra playing a blend of Balkan, Klezmer, Gypsy Jazz and Swing from 8 to 11 p.m. The cafe will be closed on Easter Sunday, March 31.

**Sun, Global Warming Is March ASG Topic**  
The next meeting of the Greenbelt Astronomical Society (ASG), to be held on Thursday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m. at H.B. Owens Science Center, will feature Greenbelt resident Dr. Robert Cahalan speaking on "The Sun and Global Warming," with a special emphasis on the use of satellites. All are welcome; there is no fee for admission.

Cahalan is chief of Goddard's Climate and Radiation Laboratory and adjunct professor at the University of Maryland. He is also president of the International Radiation Commission and has received prestigious national and international awards and is a fellow of the American Meteorological Society.

H.B. Owens Science Center is at 9601 Greenbelt Road in Lanham, adjacent to DuVal High School.

## Emergency Preparedness

# Drinking Water II – Storing Water Properly

by Kenneth Silberman

The best option for storing water is commercially bottled water. If commercially bottled water is not available, it can be prepared and bottled at home. Purchase food-grade water storage containers from surplus or camping stores or use empty two-liter plastic soft drink bottles.

Do not use plastic jugs or cardboard containers that have had milk or fruit juice in them. Milk protein and fruit sugars cannot be adequately removed from these containers and provide an environment for bacterial growth when water is stored in them. Cardboard containers also leak easily and are not designed for long-term storage of liquids. Also, do not use glass containers, which can break and are heavy.

Regardless of the type of storage containers chosen, thoroughly clean them with dishwashing soap and water first. Rinse completely so there is no residual soap. Sanitize the bottles by adding a solution of one teaspoon of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to a quart of water. Mix the sanitizing solution in the bottles so that it touches all surfaces. After sanitizing the bottles, thoroughly rinse out the sanitizing solution with clean water. Fill the bottles to the top with regular tap water. If

the tap water has been commercially treated from a water utility with chlorine, as is the case in Greenbelt, nothing else needs to be added.

Water that comes from a well or water source that is not treated with chlorine should be treated with two drops of non-scented liquid household chlorine bleach to every two liters of water. Let the water stand for 30 minutes before using. A slight chlorine odor should be noticeable in the water; if not, add another dose of bleach and allow the water to stand another 15 minutes. Tightly close the containers using the original caps. Be careful not to

contaminate the caps by touching the inside of them with a finger. Mark them with a date on the surface so it is clear when they were filled. Store the water in a cool, dark place. Water can also be treated with water purification tablets that can be purchased at most sporting goods stores. Water that has not been commercially bottled should be replaced every six months.

More information on water treatment is available at <http://www.ready.gov>.

*Kenneth Silberman is the Greenbelt Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Coordinator.*

Let's join tens of thousands+ marching to The Supreme Court, Tue., March 26 to oppose any decision to impose same sex "marriage." Contact: [caapus.org](http://caapus.org) AND [nationformarriage.org](http://nationformarriage.org).

Bill Norwood



## EASTER SUNDAY MENU

<b>HOT SELECTIONS</b> Waygu Brisket of Beef served with Chipotle Barbecue Sauce Cajun Infused Turkey served with a Tasso Ham and Thyme Gravy Carved Herb Crusted Leg of Lamb with Rosemary Mint Sauce	
<b>BREAKFAST</b> Belgian Waffles Made to Order with your favorite toppings: Strawberry Sauce, Whipped Cream, Butter and Maple Syrup Breakfast Potatoes, Bacon and Cheesy Scrambled Eggs Fresh Omelets Made to Order	
<b>SPECIALTY DISPLAY</b> Tomato and Olive Bruschetta with Toasted Baguettes Freshly Cut Seasonal Fruit, Artisan Cheese Display Peel and Eat Shrimp served with Spicy Cocktail Sauce and Lemon Spring Salad Bar Pasta Salad with Roasted Vegetables, Feta Cheese and Plum Tomatoes Vinaigrette 3 Bean Salad Chicken Walnut and Golden Raisin Salad Baked Flounder served with a Lemon Caper Sauce	
<b>SIDES</b> Mac and Cheesy Casserole, Wild Rice, Broccoli and Carrots, Roasted Red Skin Potatoes and JR's Famous Collard Greens, Assorted Gourmet Breads	
Choose from an Arrangement of Specialty Desserts	
<b>BEVERAGES</b> Soft Drinks, Juices, Tea, and Coffee	
<b>Easter Sunday Special</b> \$32.00 per person \$14.50 for children ages 5-12 Gratuity and sales tax not included	
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Wednesday, March 27, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,  
Laurel-Beltsville Senior Activity Center,  
7120 Contee Road,  
Laurel

Thursday, March 28, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,  
TESST College of Technology, 4600 Powder Mill Road,  
Beltsville

Thursday, March 28, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.,  
Kent Village Youth Center, 2342 Vermont Avenue,  
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Tuesday, April 2, 2 to 8 p.m.,  
Laurel Regional Hospital, 7300 Van Dusen Road,  
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### Guided Bird Hike Planned at Refuge

On Wednesday, March 27 from 8 to 10:30 a.m., Patuxent Research Refuge will hold a guided hike for those ages 16 and older to search for birds in several refuge habitats. Field guides and binoculars are recommended.

Public programs at the refuge are free but require advance registration by calling 301-497-5887. The Visitor Center is off Powder Mill Road between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Rt. 197.

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# Council Considers Issues Concerning Police Rights

by Peter W. Gray

The two primary issues raised at the Greenbelt City Council’s March 4 worksession centered around the rights of police officers.

First, City Attorney John Shay presented information on the Law Enforcement Officers’ Bill of Rights (LEOBR). Acknowledging many miscomprehensions regarding the law, Shay attempted to set the record straight.

Passed in Maryland in 1974, the law guarantees due process rights to police officers who are not on probationary status. Due process, in Shay’s words, consists of an officer’s right to be heard when a complaint is lodged.

The law is applicable only in matters of misconduct. An officer upset over routine reassignment or job performance issues cannot evoke it – though, as Shay admitted with a grin, some still try.

The LEOBR sets in place a procedure for methodically and fairly investigating reports of misconduct. Such reports are first subject to a departmental investigation which in most cases is handled by an investigating officer from outside the department. At this time, information is gathered and witnesses are interviewed. The officer is not required to be informed of the investigation unless formal charges are issued or there is to be a formal interrogation of the officer.

Lie detector tests taken at such a time are inadmissible in court, though they may provide evidence in an internal disciplinary action. Generally, any internal action is taken after criminal charges have been resolved. In many instances, criminal charges result in resignation or some other action where internal discipline is moot.

Once the investigation is complete and a decision is made to pursue disciplinary proceedings, the investigating officer will draft a statement of charges to be filed.

A hearing board is established consisting of three officers, ideally from outside the officer’s department. The law requires that at least one of the board be of the same rank as the accused.

If the hearing board finds the charges justified, it will recommend punishment. The police chief, however, has final say. “Normally, from what I’ve seen,” said Shay, “the chief upholds the decision of the hearing board.”

To retain this final say, chiefs remove themselves as much as possible from the investigation process. If a chief does become involved in an investigation, the board’s recommendation then becomes final, though the accused maintains the right of appeal.

**Maryland First**

Maryland was the first state to pass a “bill of rights” law which also allows officers to engage in off-duty political activity and which guarantees their right to secondary employment. Only nine states have followed in Maryland’s footsteps to pass such a law, possibly due to backlash from other unions over preferential treatment of police, suggested Shay.

But police are especially “vulnerable to . . . misconduct charges brought against them, not just internally but by members of the public,” Shay added

Police Chief James Craze volunteered that Greenbelt hasn’t had a hearing in 20 years. “When

these incidents come along, we negotiate them before they ever come to fruition,” he said. He added that most complaints are minor and rarely rise beyond internal affairs investigations.

**Firearms**

Chief Craze’s attendance at the meeting, however, was primarily to request, along with Captain Carl Schinner III, that police retirees keep their personal firearms, moving into the second main issue of the night.

Many retiring police officers after serving for so long become emotionally attached to their firearm, Schinner said. They would like to carry it and continue to protect citizens of the State of Maryland, he continued. Council heard a similar request a few years back but insisted at that time that such firearms be disabled.

**Mayor Concerned**

Mayor Judith Davis reflected on her reaction to the first proposal. “I was very concerned . . . that we’d be adding guns out there. But now, just about everyone seems to have a gun, unfortunately.”

To further support his claim, Schinner suggested that retired police officers could have been a great help in the Utah Trolley Mall Museum shooting. Resident Kelly Ivy, a gun owner, stood up to articulate his confidence in police officers and their weapons.

“I would much rather have these guys have [their guns] on the street, retired or not, against the people who have them,” Ivy said. He shared how much an old gun owned by his grandfather, a sheriff, meant to his family. “My son got to shoot his great-grandfather’s pistol Sunday. I thought that was pretty cool.”

**Discussion**

Councilmembers indicated little opposition to the primary thrust of the proposal but took issue with certain particulars. Despite Ivy’s speech, many councilmembers were dubious that the gun should be passed down to descendants. Their doubts instigated a debate over the gun’s true owner.

Would the city “lease” guns to the retired officers or would the firearms become their property? The police department suggested a contract signed by the retiree would require that certain conditions be met. For example, the gun would be stored in a gun safe overnight. However, such requirements could be difficult, if not impossible, to enforce.

Councilmember Rodney M. Roberts feared the city could be liable for any harm that might occur, based on the very presence of a contract.

Other councilmembers echoed this question. What responsibility would Greenbelt risk in entering into a contract with the retiree?

Another question raised was that of longevity. How long need an officer work here to qualify? Twenty years? Twenty-five? How would time spent in another city factor into the decision?

Davis submitted her view that a Greenbelt retiree is a Greenbelt retiree and the number of years affiliated with the Greenbelt department should be irrelevant. In addition, she suggested that a comparable amount of money be paid to the general fund for each gun and that each gun be disabled should it leave the retiree’s ownership.

## A Review

# Boxwood Villager Scores with New Book

by Eli Flam

Jesse Goldberg-Strassler, who grew up in Greenbelt’s Boxwood Village, has scored a hit with “The Baseball Thesaurus.” The new book grew out of his work as a radio announcer for several baseball teams far afield.

“The result,” says baseball author Peter Morris, “is a rich and delightful work that pays fitting tribute to baseball’s love affair with language.” It will give fans “no end of enjoyable browsing.”

As a youngster – he turns 31 on the Ides of April – Jesse delivered the News Review in Boxwood Village, a task he shared with his younger brother and sister. After graduating from Ithaca College in New York, he broadcast for the Southern League champion Montgomery Biscuits and then the Frontier League Windy City Thunderbolts. Since 2009 he’s been a full-time radio announcer/media relations specialist for the Lansing (Mich.) Lugnuts, an affiliate of the big-league Toronto Blue Jays. (Their



Jesse Goldberg-Strassler

slogan: “Go Nuts!”)

A runner-up for Ballpark Digest’s Broadcaster of the Year, Goldberg-Strassler made lists over the years of fresh ways to reach his audiences. In the 206-page “The Baseball Thesaurus,” from August Publications, a team on a winning streak could be catching fire, hitting on all cylinders or surging, among many options, while a defeat – with three pages

for its toils – can go from a blowout, cakewalk or romp on the road to anything from ace to zap.

Look for details on the longest winning streak in Major League history, in 1916; salted throughout the book are colorful anecdotes and quotes – e.g., Yogi Berra’s “It ain’t over till it’s over” and Wee Willie Keeler’s advice, “Hit ’em where they ain’t” – and a wide range of useful takes on how things work both on and off the field. Two bonuses: photos from back in the day and a smattering of terms in Spanish, reflecting the prominence of Latin Americans in baseball.

The book’s first press run is almost sold out, says a pleased Goldberg-Strassler, who visits Greenbelt in October after the Lugnuts’ season ends. Now he’s getting into marketing what major league broadcaster Dan Dickerson calls “a great window on baseball’s lexicon from days of yore – to the game today.” And what John Lott, a Toronto-based baseball writer, salutes as “a lollygagger’s delight!”

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